

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
Fort Lauderdale Division

JUSTIN GOLDMAN,

Plaintiff,

- against -

COMPLAINT FOR
COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

COX RADIO, INC., as owner of hits973.com,
hot105fm.com palmbeachmgsite.com, and
pbpulse.com,

JURY DEMANDED

Defendants.

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INTRODUCTION

1. This is an action for copyright infringement pursuant to the U.S. Copyright Act based on the unauthorized for-profit full display by websites operated by defendant Cox Radio, Inc. (“defendant”) of a photograph created by plaintiff (“the Photo”) that is protected by a federal copyright duly registered with the United States Copyright Office (Supplemental Certificate No. VA - 1-436-930).

POSSIBLY RELEVANT DISCLOSURE

2. A recently-terminated case in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York for copyright infringement was commenced by plaintiff here against other defendants based on their unauthorized for-profit full display of the Photo. That action was Goldman v. Breitbart News Network, LLC, et al., 17 Civ. 3144 (AJN)(SN). In that action, the Honorable Katherine B. Forrest, U.S.D.J., granted summary judgment to plaintiff on a specific legal issue, namely whether the process of “embedding” provides a defense to the defendants’ alleged copyright infringements. The Court’s judgment held that embedding provided no such defense. 302 F.Supp.3d 585 (S.D.N.Y. 2018).

THE PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Justin Goldman is a resident of the City and State of New York.

4. On information and belief, defendant is a business entity based in Atlanta, Georgia, that owns and operates the websites hits973.com, hot105fm.com, palmbeachmgsite.com, and pbpulse.com (“defendant’s Websites”) in this district, including in Broward County, Florida, and that committed the copyright infringements that are the subject of this action and is legally responsible therefor in this district.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has jurisdiction over this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1338. Venue in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1400(a).

UNDERLYING FACTS

6. On July 2, 2016, plaintiff created the Photo and he is the owner of a duly-issued registered copyright in it. A copy of the Photo is annexed hereto as Exhibit “A.”

7. Without plaintiff’s knowledge or consent, the Photo was uploaded that day to the Internet.

8. On information and belief, on or about July 2, 2016 and thereafter defendant’s Websites, without any legal authority to do so, prominently displayed, in full and in full color, for for-profit purposes, a copy of the Photo.

CAUSE OF ACTION FOR
COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT AGAINST DEFENDANT

9. Plaintiff incorporates here the contents of Paragraphs 1 through 8 above.

10. The United States Copyright Act grants to all copyright owners the "exclusive right" to "display" their copyrighted works "publicly," 17 U.S.C. §106(5), and the Act defines "display" as "to show a copy of it, either directly or by means of a film, slide, television image, or any other device or process or, in the case of a motion picture or other audiovisual work, to show

individual images nonsequentially." 17 U.S.C. §101. Defendant's Websites violated plaintiff's "exclusive right" to "display" the Photo by their public display of it without plaintiff's knowledge or consent. Accordingly, defendant is liable to plaintiff for the infringements by its Websites of plaintiff's registered copyright in the Photo.

WHEREFORE, with respect to each act of copyright infringement by defendant's Websites, plaintiff demands judgment a) issuing a permanent injunction preventing defendant's Websites from making any further unauthorized use or display of the Photo; b) awarding to plaintiff all appropriate damages, including statutory damages, as determined by the Court or jury; c) awarding to plaintiff profits attributable to each infringement; d) awarding to plaintiff costs and attorneys' fees; e) awarding all appropriate interest; and f) awarding such other relief as the Court deems just.

Dated: October 27, 2019

/s/Joshua Spector
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